

HATHERTON AND WALGHERTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2025 AT HANKELow METHODIST CHAPEL

Present: Cllr Chris Knibbs, Cllr Joy Sansom, Cllr Nigel Dibben, and Cllr Steve Mitchell and Cllr James Du Pavey

In attendance

Abbi Miller (Clerk), Janet Clowes (Ward Councillor), and two members of the public.

25/42 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllr Rob Tindall, Cllr Ian Bennion, Cllr Katie Clinton, Cllr Gerald Laxton

25/43 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

25/44 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Sansom and seconded by Cllr Mitchell and agreed that the minutes from 8th July 2025, are approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

25/45 QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

In accordance with the Parish Council's Standing Orders, section 1d, members of the public were able to ask a question of the Parish Council or make a statement.

There were no questions or comments from the members of the public present.

25/46 MATTERS ARISING

Ref. 25/33, It was noted that the Cheshire East website needs updating with the Parish Council website details.

ACTION: Parish Clerk to email Cheshire East with the required information. Also, the GDPR and Publication Scheme policies still to be updated with the Parish Clerks new email address. **ACTION** Parish Clerk.

Ref. 25/40 Response from Noventum Power was negative to a monetary advance but their project is moving forward well.

25/47 FINANCE MATTERS

A) The Finance Report (Appendix 10) was presented by the Clerk.

B) The following payments were authorised:

- Parish Clerk wages £427.44
- Parish Clerk HMRC contributions £106.80

C) The Increase of SCP14 from £14.84ph to £15.31ph from the Local Government Services Pay Agreement for 2025/26 was approved, to be backdated to 1 April 2025.

Cllr Knibbs brought the Council's attention to the possibility of bolstering the Parish Councils finances by the potential of using funding streams that may be available. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to look into and contact ChALC for potential training.

25/48 PLANNING MATTERS

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Councillors received the Planning Report (Appendix 11), and the following planning applications with decisions made since the last meeting held on 8th July 2025:

25/2340/HOUS	Shirebrook, London Road, Walgherton, CW5 7LE	Householder - Alterations and rear two storey extension including the demolition of an existing single storey extension.	Approved with conditions – 12/08/2025
24/5050/FUL	Laurels Farm, Crewe Road, Hatherton. CW5 7PE	Full Planning – Agricultural Track	Approved with conditions – 31/07/2025
25/2112/FUL	Dagfields, Crewe Road, Walgherton, CW5 7LG	Full Planning - Proposed new crafts and antiques workshops building and ancillary works operating within Use Classes E(a) and E(g)(iii).	Approved with conditions – 06/08/2025
24/2407N appeal ref APP/R0660/W/24/3353725	Full Planning - Erection of one self-build dwelling and associated works	Land Adjacent Broomlands Lodge Bridgemere Lane, Hatherton, CW5 7PL	Appeal Dismissed.11/8/2025

25/48.1 NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

25/2546/CLEUD	Caravan At Bank House Farm, Oakes Corner Audlem Road, Hatherton, CW5 7PQ	Certificate of Lawful Use / Development – Existing: Certificate of lawful development for existing siting of a static caravan and its residential occupation, associated access and parking.	Parish Council Response: The Hatherton & Walgherton Parish Council originally reported the access when it was constructed in 2016. The Parish Council originally reported the installation of the park home for enforcement in January 2020, copies of the emails are attached. The site has a dangerous access on a busy road with poor visibility. On siting of the park home, substantial gates were installed to hide the site from public view.
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			<p>This is inappropriate development in open countryside. Not in keeping with the design code of the local plan. It is not a caravan but is a substantial park home. The access is dangerous.</p> <p>The parish council has repeatedly complained to the enforcement team and objected to the site over the period since its installation.</p> <p>The parish council strongly object and suggest the application should be rejected.</p>
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It was also noted that the following planning applications were still outstanding decisions:

25/0737/FUL	Full Planning - Proposed change of use of part (0.42ha) of an agricultural field to a fully enclosed dog exercise paddock. Also to include a 10m x 10m area of hardstanding for car parking and siting of a mobile welfare unit to provide shelter in inclement weather, toilet facilities and a kitchenette.	Ballaglass London Road, Walgherton, CW5 7NH
25/0204/FUL	Full Planning - Enclosure of front gabled overhang to create an extension to dwelling house approved under application no. 22/1398N. Extension comprising: a new entryway, expanded kitchen and expanded kitchenette. Also removal of external staircase and roof storage previously approved in above mentioned application.	The Villa Hunsterson Road, Hatherton, CW5 7PD
24/3577N	Full Planning - Erect an additional fence and small equestrian store	Hatherton House, Audlem Road, CW5 7QT
24/2913N	Householder - Outdoor dining wooden structure	Hatherton House, Audlem Road, CW5 7QT

25/49 HIGHWAY MATTERS

Clr Dibben provided the following update on Highways Matters:

- Lodge Lane to Audlem Road will be closed for works.
- Oakes Corner to Park Lane has been closed for water works.
- Crewe Rd. has been closed this last week for gulley jetting.
- "Fix My Street" app has been decommissioned and has been replaced with "traCE." Application. Clr Dibben also noted that the Councillors making reports on here does make a difference, especially if

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multiple councillors report the same issue. **ACTION:** Cllr Dibben to send a report round to the Councillors of all road defects that need reporting for them to also report. **ACTION:** Councillors

- There have been a number of complaints about Muller lorries wrecking the verge and knocking down the bollards on Park Lane. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to write to Helers, cc-ing Muller Head Office, reminding them that deliveries should not be utilising Park Lane, as damage is being caused.

25/50 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

- Cllr Clowes noted that she has now spoken to all Parish Councils within Wybunbury Ward, and has written to Cheshire East to obtain revisions of all the current policies, including any emerging policies.
- She has also been given the names of three consultants to contact.
- She plans on holding the first meeting at the end of September.

25/51 CHESHIRE EAST WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Clowes reported on the following:

- The biggest issue affecting the region is the matter of devolution.
- Voting has started in Cheshire West. Cheshire East is due to vote on 17th September, and Warrington later in September.
- Cllr Clowes talked through what devolution would mean for Cheshire East, the tiers of how local government would work, the various committees that would be set up as a result of devolution and outlines the proposed mayoral budget.
- Cllr Clowes biggest concern is what devolution would mean for rural communities, as there is little mention, and its possible most efforts would be concentrated on urban areas.

25/52 PARISH IMPROVEMENT WORKING GROUP REPORT AND PROGRESS

Cllr Knibbs updated the Parish Council on the meeting of the Parish Improvement Working Group meeting that was held on 1st September. Minutes available on request.

In summary:

- There are 14 different activities in progress.
- Cllr Knibbs thanked Cllr Clowes for her work on Footpaths, and there have been a lot of work to improve the footpaths with the help of landowners.
- The bridge on Footpath 1:
 - This is still unpassable, and has now been inspected and a willow tree has now come down over the bridge. Unfortunately, Cheshire East and the Highways Bridge Team are not financially able to help at this time.
 - Cllr Laxton is working to get quotes for tree surgeons to remove the willow tree.
 - Cllr Dibben has written up a method statement and risk assessment for repair of the bridge, and will obtain costs of materials. Costs are still to be worked through, and Cheshire East will need to be contacted about the plan.
 - Sound & District Parish Council are on the other side of the bridge and may assist with repairs. Once quotes have been received, the Parish Clerk will write to S&D Parish Council.
- HGV traffic is getting heavier on Birchall Moss Lane, and it has been noted that there are sometimes children playing in this location. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to write to Cheshire East Highways to enquire as to whether a "Children Playing" sign can be installed.
- Noticeboards - the spend to purchase two new noticeboards was approved £1830 plus VAT in total. Cllr Du Pavey proposed and Cllr Sansom seconded.
- There have been some pavements cleared from Oakes Corner to Birchall Moss Lane.

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25/53 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS

There are currently no consultations.

25/54 (ALL) MEMBERS REPORTS TO RAISE TO COUNCIL (FORMERLY AOB)

It was proposed by Cllr Du Pavey and seconded by Cllr Sansom that the time of the Parish Council meetings be moved from 1930 hrs to 1900 hrs.

Cllr Sansom noted that the planters were not in good order and that there could be a parishioner who may like to look after them.

Cllr Sansom also noted that the road sign at the end of Park Lane was not in good order. She also reported that the original road sign was in a neighbour's garden, and that it might be nice if it was restored and reinstalled. She was happy to ask the neighbour.

ACTION: Parish Clerk to send Cllr Sansom an updated contact list for the noticeboards.

Cllr Knibbs asked for an agenda item to discuss the Action Plan at the next meeting. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk.

Cllr Knibbs Noted that our Council Excellence award runs out in October 2025 and it was agreed that we should reapply with an initial fee paid if needed. To be progressed at our next meeting. **ACTION** Parish Clerk.

Cllr Knibbs reported that Cllr Tindall had tendered his resignation. A leaving gift to be discussed at the next meeting.

Cllr Dibben agreed to be an additional signatory on the Unity Bank account. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to take necessary steps to add Cllr Dibben to the account.

25/55 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 11th November 2025 **AT 7PM**

Hankelow Chapel, 11 Old School Lane, Hankelow, CW3 0JN The meeting closed at 21:25 pm.